The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, October 29, 1992

Published Since 1877

Missionaries consider evacuation as Liberia's war escalates

By Donald D. Martin

MONROVIA, Liberia (BP)—Southern Baptist missionaries distributing food, clothing, and bedding to refugees flooding into Monrovia may soon flee the country themselves.

Fighting between rebel factions and troops of a seven-nation West African peacekeeping force has escalated in recent weeks. Heavy fighting continued Oct. 22 on the outskirts of Monrovia, according to news reports. Peacekeeping forces have imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew in Monrovia and the U.S. Embassy is transporting dependents and other nonessential personnel out of the country.

Ten Southern Baptist missionaries in Monrovia have reviewed evacuation plans and may leave if fighting increases in the capital city, said mission administrator Bradley Brown in a radio message to missionaries in neighboring Sierra Leone.

Liberia appears headed for nationwide warfare again. In October peacekeeping force warplanes bombed the rebel-held port of Buchanan, 80 miles east of Monrovia, and rebels have launched artillery bombardments on parts of Monrovia.

More than 50 Southern Baptist missionaries worked in the country before the civil war started. Fighting forced most of them to evacuate in June 1990. In February 1991 six missionaries returned to Monrovia to set up a variety of relief ministries. That force now has grown to 14 mission personnel. Once again, fighting may force many of them to leave.

Besides Brown, from Marietta, Ga., other Southern Baptist missionaries in Monrovia are Brown's wife, Carolyn, of East Point, Ga.; **Felix and Dene Greer of Jackson, Miss.**; John McPherson of Knoxville, Tenn.; Debbie Moore of Hope, Ark.; Kenneth and Joyce Nicholson of Magdalena, N.M., and Seaside, Calif., respectively; and Jim and Jane Park of Paducah, Ky.

Martin writes for the Foreign Mission Board.

Four Southern Baptists serving in Congress listed among top 10 alcohol lobby recipients

By Tom Strode

WASHINGTON (BP)—The alcohol industry contributed more than $5.7 million to members of Congress and to both political parties during a 40-month period from 1989 to 1992, and some Southern Baptists profited the most, according to a recent report.

Two Southern Baptists in the Senate and two in the House of Representatives ranked in the top 10 in their respective chambers in contributions received from the alcohol industry.

Both Southern Baptists in the Senate are from Kentucky. Sen. Wendell Ford, D.-Ky., was the No. 1 recipient of alcohol industry money in the Senate with $58,000. Sen. Mitch McConnell, R.-Ky., ranked third at $47,422.

In the House, Rep. Richard Gephardt, D.-Mo., was No. 2 with $59,248 in alcohol-related contributions. Rep. Newt Gingrich, R.-Ga., was tied for eighth with $31,000.

The No. 1 benefactor of alcohol industry contributions in the House was Dan Rostenkowski, D.-Ill., at $70,500.

The report, titled "Under the Influence: How the Booze Industry Buys Business as Usual," was released Oct. 13 by Center for Science in the Public Interest, a Washington-based consumer advocacy group. The data was collected from the Federal Election Commission and Senate and House financial disclosure statements, according to the report.

The contributions were made in the following ways and amounts, the report says: political action committee contributions, $3.44 million; "soft money" gifts to political parties, $1.13 million; campaign contributions from alcohol industry families, $695,000; and honoraria, $490,000.

Eighty percent, 351 members, of the House received alcohol industry money. Seventy percent of the 100-member Senate benefited from alcohol-related gifts. Among the top 20 recipients in both the House and Senate were 24 Democrats and 16 Republicans.

"That any politician, especially a Southern Baptist, is accepting monies from the alcohol industry is absolutely unconscionable," said Ben Mitchell, director of biomedical and life issues for the Christian Life Commission. "These persons have pledged themselves to protect the well-being of their constituents. Instead, they are part of a not-so-subtle attack against them."

Between 20 to 40% of hospital beds in the country are occupied by people whose health conditions are a result of alcohol use, Mitchell said. About 40% of teen-age deaths occur in traffic accidents, with nearly half of those alcohol related, he said.

The Department of Agriculture's Market Promotion Program continues to provide millions of dollars in tax money to promote alcoholic beverages abroad, the report says. In 1986, the MPP was added to the 1985 Farm Bill, which funded overseas promotion of American agricultural products. Since 1986, the Wine Institute has received $41 million in federal funding. Wine exports increased from $30 million in 1986 to $150 million in 1991. Although wine companies receive the majority of the MPP funds among alcohol industry members, brewers and distillers also profit.

The National Beer Wholesalers Association and Philip Morris Companies far outdistanced all other alcohol-related PACs in contributions. During the 40-month period, both gave more than $1 million, which was $700,00 greater than their closest competitor. Philip Morris owns the Miller Brewing Co.

Three families which own alcohol companies, the Gallo, Bronfman, and Coors families, contributed 96% of the $694,804 given to members of Congress. Gallo family members, who are in the wine business, gave more than $433,000. The Bronfmans control Seagram and Sons liquor and the Coors family owns the beer company of the same name.

Philip Morris easily led all honoraria donors with $207,500. The House of Representatives passed a ban on honoraria effective January 1991. The Senate's ban on honoraria became effective in August of this year. Honoraria were given to senators and representatives for such acts as making a short speech or attending a meeting, the report says.

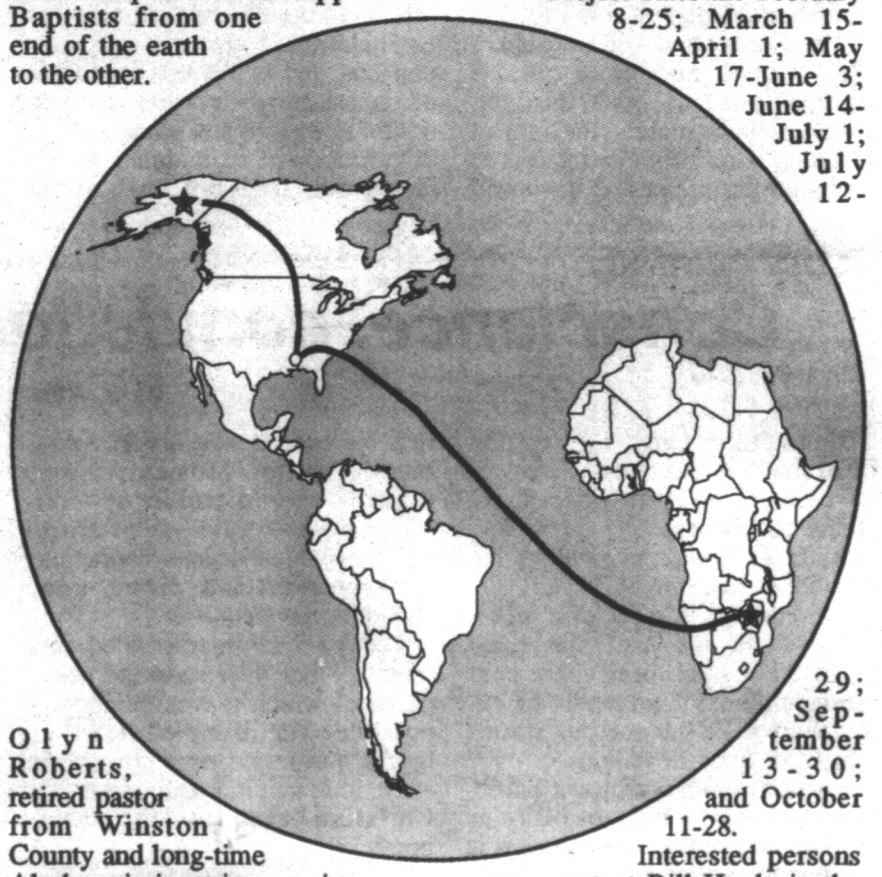
The report was based on contributions from January 1989 to April 1992.

Strode is director of media & news information, Washington office of the SBC Christian Life Commission.

Partnerships yield '93 projects spanning globe, top to bottom

By Bill Hardy

Partnership agreements between the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, the northernmost state in the U.S., and the African country of Zimbabwe have led to eight ambitious mission trips for 1993 that will place Mississippi Baptists from one end of the earth to the other.



Olyn Roberts, retired pastor from Winston County and long-time Alaska mission trip organizer, is enlisting 20 men and six women for a construction project in Soldotna, Alaska, on July 5-16, 1993. Total cost will be $800 per person. Interested persons can contact Roberts directly at (601) 773-5670.

Teams of five pastors and five laypersons are needed for seven Zimbabwe projects in 1993. Churches, associations, Baptist men's groups, and others are encouraged to enlist a team for one of the projects. Each project will involve starting a new church in areas of high population where there is presently no church.

Project dates are February 8-25; March 15-April 1; May 17-June 3; June 14-July 1; July 12-29; September 13-30; and October 11-28.

Interested persons can contact Bill Hardy in the Brotherhood Department, MBCB, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. The telephone number is (601) 968-3800.

The response to the Gospel is often overwhelming. Can we miss these opportunities God is giving?

Hardy is coordinator of the Alaska and Zimbabwe Partnership Projects of the Brotherhood Department, MBCB.

Pastor, director of missions seek peace in Md./Delaware

SALISBURY, Md. (BP)—A Maryland pastor and director of missions are calling for an end to enmity among Maryland/Delaware Baptists.

Bill Warren, pastor of Allen Memorial Church in Salisbury, Md., and Walter Agnor, director of missions for Eastern Association, also in Salisbury, recently mailed a document to Maryland/Delaware Baptist pastors decrying what they call a breakdown of fellowship in the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware due to preoccupation with politics and a lack of love.

The two men are proposing Maryland/Delaware Baptists be willing to meet to discuss and pray about improving fellowship among Maryland/Delaware Baptists.

Their intent is to hold a meeting sometime prior to the upcoming Baptist Convention of Maryland and Delaware annual meeting, most likely during the first week in November.

A firm date has not yet been set.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL
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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson

Family meeting time

The 157th annual state meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention is near. November 10-11 are the dates when all the Baptist family is invited to convene. The Pastors Conference will signal the kickoff; seminaries and colleges will have their annual meetings of state alumni. Reports, sermons, and great singing will characterize the meeting.

Surely there will be some controversy; have we ever had a convention without it? Cain and Abel ignited it some years ago. Believers, churches, and conventions have weathered it since then.

The important thing is how we do this. Can we not disagree and still be agreeable? Must disagreement result in name-calling, attacks on personalities, and a rupture of relationship? Since 1824 the Convention has met and disagreements have been numerous, but the fellowship has remained intact. "Behold, how they love one another," was an observation of the public toward the early Christians.

The Convention will consider a $22,452,000 budget or a 4.0% increase over the 1992 budget. This is approximately the rate of inflation. It reflects our interest in winning Mississippi and the world to Jesus, and challenges our churches to a ministry outside the community.

W.W. Walley, Waynesboro physician, is Convention president and will give his address. Sonny Adkins of Forest will deliver the Convention sermon. Choirs from Forest, William Carey College, a mass Senior Adult group, and the Singing Churchmen will perform. It should be our finest hour and churches should send their staffs and as many members as possible.

During the 1884 convention, meeting in Aberdeen, there was a frightful discussion on "centralizing" the various programs of the convention. Various departments were located in cities over the state. President W.H. Hardy, in a plea for unity, finally spoke: "But someone may be ready to cry out in trepidation and alarm, 'centralization!' As a Baptist, this has no terrors for me. It is the veriest bugbear; for one of the cardinal doctrines upon which the superstructure of all our churches rests is that each church is separate and independent, and is the sole custodian of ecclesiastical authority and cannot delegate it to any other body or organization of individuals, recognizing only the Lord Jesus as the head of the church, and the Scriptures only as containing the true canons of the church. Hence, it is impossible that there can ever be among Baptists any centralization of power outside the churches that would trench upon the rights of the churches. When we consider all these things, does it not seem to be madness and folly to waste any time, to fritter away any opportunity in discussing questions that are neither vital nor profitable; but ought we not to rise as one man and obey the injunction, 'What thy hands find to do, do it with all thy might?'"

It would be good for all of us to stroll through the Philippian garden reaping some of the wealth as the best preparation for the convention:

"In every prayer of mine.... for your fellowship in the gospel."

"That your love may abound more and more in knowledge...."

"That ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together...."

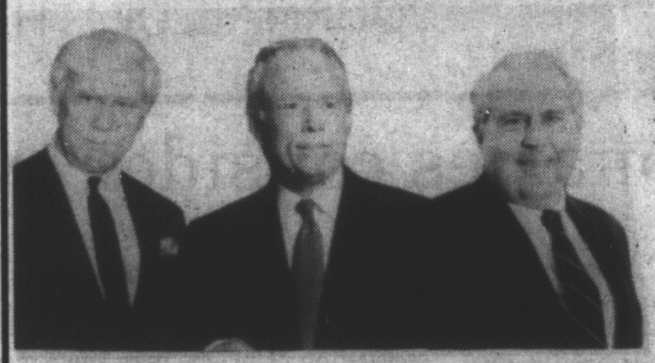
"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus."

"For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do his good pleasure."

"And the peace of God... shall keep your hearts and minds...."

WHY NOT A LOTTERY...

These Men Know.



Mississippi Governors Bill Allain, Kirk Fordice and Bill Waller

A state-run lottery is not a good source of revenue for Mississippi state government. There's no reason for government to lure its citizens into gambling. Governor Fordice and former Governors Allain and Waller all plan to vote against a state-run lottery. Join them in voting NO on Amendment 1 on November 3.

Approved by Citizens Advocating Responsible Economics, Bill Alexander, Chairman

The changing style of the Pastors' Conference

The Pastors' Conference is not directly sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention but it is a part of it. It was resurrected a few years ago and has grown since then. The idea behind it was to provide inspiration for conventioneers just prior to the convention.

The thought was to use Mississippi pastors with an outsider being the exception. A free-will offering would be taken to provide necessary funds.

In the last few years the style of the conference has changed. The use of state pastors is becoming a rarity. In 1990 we had Morris Chapman and Fred Wolfe and in 1991 we had three out-of-state speakers. In 1992 we have one state preacher and nine out-of-state preachers and singers. The difference is Rapha.

Rapha is a very successful treatment center for alcohol, drugs, grief, gluttony, etc. It is highly recommended by leading convention officers and many pastors. Rapha offered to pay for the printed program and apparently for some of the program personnel. In addition they will host a luncheon for all pastors, staff and their spouses. The attractive program looks like a Rapha brochure with the Pastors Conference sandwiched in.

Naturally the theme is "Helping Hurting People" and has promise of being helpful. It presents an opportunity to learn the "how to" in ministries and referral. The music will be superb with Larry Black, First, Jackson, and Gary Miller of Morrison Heights, leading.

Unbiased as I am, my church choir and orchestra from Morrison Heights could well rank among the best in the land. Ken Alford, pastor, will preside over the conference. GH

Guest opinion...

Conscience, conviction, and common Sense

By R. Albert Mohler, Jr.

Democracy, lamented Winston Churchill, is the worst form of government on earth—except for all the other forms. His words ring familiar as Americans look to the November elections.

An election campaign is not a pretty sight, and American campaigns have often been more concerned with mud and media-hawking than with the serious issues which confront the nation.

Christians citizens bear a particular and unique responsibility as the election nears. The election is not merely a choice between competing candidates; it is an inescapable summons to moral decision-making. By their lack of attention to the issues, confusion over media coverage, and fatigue from the political season, many Christians find themselves unprepared for the voting booth. Four trustworthy guides should frame the Christian's electoral decisions.

Conscience

The Christian enters the voting booth in order to make a choice between competing candidates, initiatives, and issues. No matter how they are presented to the public, the issues are always profoundly moral. Moral decisions require the exercise of conscience—the God-given moral capacity which makes distinctions between right and wrong, good and evil, true and false.

George Washington called conscience "that little spark of celestial fire" which makes democracy possible. The discipled heart led by the nurtured conscience are the most fundamental armaments the Christian takes into the voting booth.

Character

The issue of character has erupted frequently during the current national campaign, but most media coverage has produced more heat than light. Some sectors of the media have gone so far as to declare the issue off limits, but the Christian citizen knows better. The Christian citizen understands that a lack of integrity in private life is a harbinger of disaster in public service. The issue can hardly be declared off limits.

Character is a bipartisan issue. But no candidate can hide behind a charade of public virtue and private vice. "Know this, your sins will find you out." (Numbers 32:23).

Christian citizens will understand that character reveals the inner commitments and private priorities no public statement can obscure. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." (Proverbs 23:7).

"Character," said D.L. Moody, "is what you are in the dark." In a fallen world, we do not expect perfect leaders any more than we expect to produce perfect citizens. But the public demands and deserves elected officials who can be trusted—even when the lights are out.

Convictions

Woodrow Wilson described politics as a "joust of principles," and so it is. In the voting booth, Americans are too frequently drawn to personalities, rather than directed by principles and convictions. But the Christian must confront all issues and decisions from the perspective of the Christian world view. The Christian is submitted to God's revealed truth, and God has spoken clearly about issues germane to any election.

At every level—local, state, and national—convictions are on the line. These range from issues of abortion and homosexuality to education, civil rights, and the much-contorted "family issues" debate. The Christian citizen will not confront the ballot before careful consideration of the proposals, policies, and platforms offered by each candidate and party. The issues are not merely mechanical—they are unavoidably moral.

As Abraham Lincoln advised, "Stand with anybody that stands right, stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong."

Common Sense

The voting decision requires yet another God-given capacity—common sense. Many of the pressing issues before the electorate this year are economic and structural. The presidential candidates each have concrete proposals which spell out their intended solutions to the nations' ills and challenges. The same issues are debated in congressional, state, and local races.

(See **MOHLER** on page 5)

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HMB approves budget, restructure, appoints missionaries

ATLANTA (BP) — Directors of the Home Mission Board approved a new budget and organizational structure, as well as appointed 30 missionaries.

Meeting in a mid-October regular session, board members discussed at length and subsequently approved a 1993 budget of slightly more than $86 million, which is less than a 1% increase over the 1992 budget. Discussion centered around the proposed budget being reduced since its mailing to members the previous month. Several members questioned why the proposed budget was reduced when the board appeared to be in a very healthy financial position with several million dollars in reserve.

The directors also approved several organizational changes Larry Lewis, president, said will make the agency more efficient and effective. Beginning Jan.1, all financial affairs will be consolidated under planning vice president Ernest Kelley. His title will be changed to executive vice president of planning and finance, and he will be chief fiscal officer of the agency. Bob Banks will continue as executive vice president with specific responsibilities for daily operations.

In addition, six management positions which were either vacant or will be vacant as the result of retirements were eliminated. Lewis emphasized although the positions were being dropped, none of the functions would be eliminated. "We are simply trying to shift as much money as possible out of the Atlanta office and into the field."

During the meeting the board also appointed 30 home missionaries, approved the endorsement of 47 Southern Baptist chaplains, and elected five staff to vacant positions. Those elected were Herbert B. Brisbane and Michael F. Thurman as associate directors of the black church extension division; James A. Dunbar as a loan officer in the church loans division; John W. Hocking as senior systems analyst in the information services department; and W. Thaddeus Hamilton as director of personal evangelism.

Thirteen Home Mission Board employees with combined HMB service of over 200 years were honored for their dedication to missions. Each will retire by the end of the year and was presented with a resolution and walnut plaque.

The board's fall commissioning service held At First Church, Alpharetta, Ga., was attended by more than 400 people.

The service climaxed a week-long orientation of Home Mission Board work, structure, and resources, for 78 missionaries serving in 26 states, Puerto Rico, and Canada.

David Clines, one missionary sharing his testimony, said he is a product of home missions. Led to Christ by a church planter, he now serves as a church planter in North Carolina.

Beth Montano of Texas shared that she surrendered her life to missions while serving in summer missions. Tennessee native Eddie Miller, now director of missions in Reno, Nev., spoke for his new colleagues, telling the gathering, "It is our desire and commitment to win America for Jesus Christ."

HMB President Lewis, during his challenge, emphasized the importance of work. Citing John 9:1-4, Lewis said that the requirement of work was modeled by Jesus who siad, "I must work."

The time for work will pass, Lewis emphasized. "If you don't believe that Jesus is coming again, you need to do some other kind of work."

Lewis cautioned the new missionaries that the rewards of their work will not be measured in salary and benefits, "which are not plentiful. But your rewards will far exceed what this world can provide."

The Second Front Page

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, October 29, 1992 Published Since 1877

157th state convention session convenes in Jackson Nov. 10-11

By Tim Nicholas

The 157th session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention meets Nov. 10-11 at First Baptist Church, Jackson.

Besides a closing address by a former Southern Baptist Convention president, the convention will hear a message by a lay president, a sermon by a Forest pastor, a seminary professor, and a Georgia pastor, and a message from the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's executive director-treasurer.

Business sessions will include adoption of a proposed $22,452,000 Cooperative Program budget; election of a president—W.W. Walley of Waynesboro is eligible for a second one-year term; and consideration of any motions or resolutions messengers may submit.

One group calling itself the Council for Restoration of Clarke College has said it will present a motion to reverse the Spring 1992 closure of the Newton junior college.

Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Church, Memphis, and a three-time SBC president, will speak at the last session of the convention, at 7:45 p.m., Nov. 11.

The president's address by W.W. Walley, a Waynesboro physician, will be at 10:55 a.m., Nov. 10. The annual sermon is by S.A. "Sonny" Adkins, pastor of Forest Church, Forest.

Wayne Ward, professor at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky., will speak at 4:10 p.m., Nov. 10. Charles Q. Carter, pastor of First Church, Jonesboro, Ga., will speak at 3:30 on Nov. 11.

The traditional evening emphasis on the convention itself, will include an address by Bill Causey, executive director of the convention board.

Another tradition, begun more than 10 years ago, is the Bible Treasure series. A short devotional message is delivered during each of the daytime sessions of the convention. This year, the speaker will be John Phillips, an author and Bible teacher, retired from the Moody Bible Institute, living in Raleigh, N.C.

Also, sessions of the convention will include Christian testimonies, this year entitled "How I Met Jesus." Testifiers will be five men and one woman. They are T.J. Jennings of First Church, Louisville; Sheldon Gooch of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes in Jackson, who will also sing; Les Hatcher of First Church, Lucedale; Steve Ashton of Fairview Church, Columbus; Jennifer Welford of William Carey College, Hattiesburg; and Woodrow Brand Jr., of First Church, Houston.

Music for the convention includes the sanctuary choir of First Church, Waynesboro; the group, Testament, from the Mississippi State University Baptist Student Union; the Mississippi Singing Churchmen; the chancel choir of Forest Church, Forest; the William Carey College Chorale; and a mass senior adult choir.

Joel Gregory eyed for pastorate of First Church in Wichita Falls

WICHITA FALLS (ABP) — Joel Gregory, who resigned suddenly as pastor of First Church of Dallas Sept. 30, is preaching temporarily in the former pulpit of the Southern Baptist Convention's new executive, Morris Chapman, and is a candidate to succeed Chapman as pastor.

The church is First Church of Wichita Falls, Texas, where Chapman served for 13 years before becoming president and treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee in September.

"We are considering Joel, but he's only one of about 60 other people," said Harold Warren, chairman of the search committee in Wichita Falls, about 120 miles northwest of Dallas.

Gregory preached both the Sunday morning and evening services at the 8,000-member Wichita Falls church Oct. 18. He also preached at the Oct. 25 services and is scheduled to repeat those duties on Nov. 1.

Don't forget to vote on Tuesday, Nov. 3

Anti-lottery forces gaining momentum

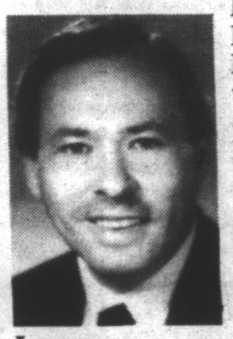
(see page 5)

Pastors' Conf. set for Nov. 10; former, current officers slated

The Mississippi Baptist Pastors' Conference, Nov. 10 at First Church, Jackson, will feature a former SBC Pastors' Conference president and the current president and vice president of the Pastors' Conference, plus the first vice president of the SBC. Theme is "Helping Hurting People."



Millwood



Lowery

The meeting kicks off with a luncheon paid for by Rapha, a private counseling service. The luncheon, free to pastors, other staff and their spouses, is at Primos Northgate Restaurant, 4330 North State Street, 11 a.m. Speaker is Jay Strack, an evangelist and first vice president of the SBC. For reservations, call Morrison Heights Church in Clinton at 924-5620 or Rapha at 1-800-383-HOPE (4673).



Wolfe



Buchanan

That evening, the founder and president of Rapha, Robert McGee, will speak on the program.



The Fairchilds

Other conference speakers will be J. Garland McKee, Jack Millwood, Fred Lowery, and Fred Wolfe. McKee is director of the Evangelism Department, MBCB. Millwood is pastor of First Church, North Mobile, and vice president of the SBC Pastors' Conference. Lowery is pastor of First Church, Bossier City, La., and president of the SBC Pastors' Conference. Wolfe is pastor of Cottage Hill Church, Mobile, and a former president of the SBC Pastors' Conference.

YoYo Collins a speaker and singer from Salina, Okla., will sing and give his testimony. Greg Buchanan, a harpist from Kansas City, Mo., will give special music and his testimony. Rendy Lovelady, national spokesman for Families Against Drugs and Suicide, will give his testimony and a challenge.



Collins

Other music will be by Starla Crosby, a soloist form Houston, Tex.; the Fairchilds, a trio from Atlanta, and the Morrison Heights Church orchestra and celebration choir.



Nurses will conduct Health Fair

Mississippi College School of Nursing will conduct a Health Fair in the lobby of the Baptist Building during the Mississippi Baptist Convention, Tuesday, Nov. 10. The fair will include booths testing for hypertension, nutrition and diet, exercise, vision and hearing, diabetes, cancer, and drug addiction, along with free literature and counseling. Pictured above are senior nursing students (left to right) Pattie Ray of Madison, Denise Windom of Crystal Springs, and Jan Harms of Clinton conducting a blood pressure check on Bill Causey, executive director-treasurer, MBCB.

FMB-Fellowship dialogue shows no sign of progress

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (ABP) — Leaders of the Foreign Mission Board and Cooperative Baptist Fellowship spent five hours in dialogue over differences Oct. 15 but emerged with no one predicting any progress in the strained relationship between the two.

The topic was missions. The Foreign Mission Board, with its 3,918 missionaries, and the much smaller Fellowship, with less than a dozen "missioners," nonetheless have become competitors of sorts.

John Jackson, chairman of FMB trustees, said afterward he initiated the dialogue and is open to any proposal that might come from the Fellowship, but he conceded, "I don't know how much interaction there will be in the future."

"We got a chance to understand their viewpoint... without necessarily agreeing," said the California pastor.

Moreover, the FMB leaders said, the SBC's "conservative resurgence" — and particularly the political structure that nurtured it — has played little or no role in defining the FMB's current direction or their participation as trustees.

Fellowship leaders protested, citing the sudden retirement of FMB President Keith Parks and two top administrators as evidence. The three retirees, as well as other employees who have since resigned, blamed SBC politics or the fundamentalist agenda of trustees for diverting the FMB from its traditional course.

"Most of the things they have trouble with were Dr. Parks' agenda, not trustees' agenda," Jackson said for the record after the meeting.

Since his retirement announcement, Parks has criticized trustees for becoming too involved in administration of the agency.

But Parks' leadership style and not "philosophical differences" created the impasse with trustees that produced his earlier-than-planned retirement, the FMB leaders said.

Parks was incapable of sharing leadership of the FMB with trustees, several FMB participants said. While trustees were willing for him to stay as president, they said, Parks would not accept the heightened involvement in decision-making sought by trustees.

The 65-year-old president probably didn't even recognize that as the true nature of his problem with trustees, one added.

Fellowship leaders complained about charges — spoken publicly by Jackson and others — that the Fellowship is "cutting the throat" of the Cooperative Program by encouraging churches to divert funds to its missions program. The Fellowship is providing more than $2 million directly to the FMB this year, Fellowship leaders said, which is more than it is spending on its own missions. "That hardly sounds like cutting the throat," one said.

But FMB leaders insisted the Fellowship's funding program is sowing "seeds of destruction" that could damage the Cooperative Program, the unified budget that supports most SBC agencies.

"If what we're doing is evil," one Fellowship leader responded, "then have the moral conviction to give the money back."

In addition to Jackson, others representing the FMB in the dialogue were trustees Pat Bullock of Texas and Phyllis Randall of Virginia, Executive Vice President Don Kammerdiener and personnel administrator Harlan Spurgeon.

Representing the Fellowship, in addition to Hewett, were Cecil Sherman of Atlanta, CBF coordinator; Pat Ayres of Texas, moderator; and James Slatton of Virginia and **Jean Bond of Mississippi.**

PONDER ANEW WHAT the Almighty CAN DO

1992 MBC Annual Meeting

Registation site changed

Registration for messengers and guests attending the 1992 annual meeting will be held on the second floor, State Street entrance, of First Church, Jackson. The location has been changed from the foyer of the church's sanctuary. The new crosswalk over State Street leads to this year's registration site.

Registration begins at noon, Nov. 9. Booths will open at 8 a.m. Nov. 10 and 11, closing both days at the beginning of the evening session.

Parking at fairgrounds

Due to the limited amount of parking at First Church, Jackson, messengers and other guests attending the 1992 session are encouraged to park at the Mississippi State Fairgrounds. Space has been reserved behind the "Super Slide" at the Jefferson St. entrance for MBC participants. Shuttle vans will be available to transport passengers between the fairgrounds and First Church.

Child care available

Preschool care will be available for children ages birth through five at First Church, Jackson, for both the Pastor's Conference and the convention. The nursery will open 20 minutes prior to each session and close 15 minutes after each session.

Convention-related activities

Messengers and guests attending the 1992 Mississippi Baptist Convention annual meeting Nov. 10 and 11 will have the opportunity to attend a variety of related meetings, breakfasts, luncheons, and receptions. The various events are listed by date in correspondence to the annual meeting.

Monday, Nov. 9:

Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association, 11:30 a.m., Morrison Heights Church, 201 Morrison Dr., Clinton. Tickets cost $10 each and may be purchased at the door.

Lay Missions Conference, First Church; seminars begin at 1 p.m., followed by a general session at 3 and a banquet at 5. Cost for banquet is $7.50 each. Reservations deadline is Nov. 4. For reservations or more information, contact the MBCB Brotherhood Department, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205; phone (601) 968-3800.

Mississippi Baptist Ministers' Wives, 1-4:30 p.m., First Church.

Pastors' Conference, First Church; sessions begin at 1:45 and 6:30 p.m. Luncheon reservations may be made by calling 1-800-383-HOPE.

Tuesday, Nov. 10:

Florida Baptist Theological College alumni, 7 a.m., Shoney's, I-55 at High St. For more information, contact Arlis F. Grice at (601) 798-6193.

Annuitants Fellowship, 7:30 a.m., First Church, Main Dining Room. Reservations, which are due by Nov. 5, may be made by contacting Bill Sellers at (601) 968-3800.

Mississippi College Christian service alumni, 7:30 to 9 a.m., First Church, Fellowship Hall, Section A, Rms B, C, and D.

New Orleans Seminary alumni, noon, Coliseum Ramada Inn, 1-55 at High St. Tickets are $10 in advance or $12 at the seminary's booth. Contact Ken Anderson at (601) 896-5826 or 869-5742 for more information.

Southern Seminary alumni, noon, Baptist Building Sky Room. Tickets are $10. To order, send self-addressed, stamped envelope to Carl White, P.O. Box 746, Clarksdale, MS 38614.

Southwestern Seminary alumni, noon, Calvary Church, Jackson. Tickets are $10 each until Nov. 3, $11 afterwards. To order, write Tom Mercier at P.O. Box 91, Prentiss, MS 39474; phone (601) 792-4215 or 792-2488.

Mississippi Baptist Chaplains Association, 4:45 p.m., Baptist Building Sky Room. Tickets are free to members and $9 for guests. Reservation deadline is Nov. 6 Contact Richard Brogan at (601) 968-3800 for more information.

Blue Mountain College ministerial alumni, 5 p.m., Broadmoor Church, Jackson. Tickets are $6 each and will be available at the college's booth.

William Carey College alumni, approximately 8:45 p.m., Baptist Building Chapel. For additional information, contact Donna Wheeler at (601) 582-6107.

Wednesday, Nov. 11

Bivocational ministers and wives, 7 a.m., Admiral Benbow Restaurant, 905 N. State St. No reservations required; free to participants. Contact Matt Buckles at (601) 968-3800.

Clarke College alumni, 7 a.m., First Church, East Hall. Contact person is Glen Shows (601) 453-3075.

Midwestern Seminary alumni, 7 a.m., First Church. Tickets are $5 each. Contact person is Michael Smith, P.O. Box B, Sherman, MS 38869.

New Work Fellowship breakfast, 7:30 a.m., Baptist Building Sky Room. Reservations due by Nov. 6. Contact J. Ray Grissett at (601) 968-3800.

President choice at Southern Seminary expected to take more conservative turn

By Bill Wolfe

LOUISVILLE, Ky., (ABP) The choice of a new president for Southern Seminary will confront the school's trustees with a critical choice, observers agree.

There is no doubt that the trustees, dominated by fundamental-conservatives, will appoint someone to the theological right of retiring president Roy Honeycutt.

The new leader will surely continue, and perhaps accelerate, the seminary's move to a more conservative posture.

"I really do take Dr. Honeycutt at his word," said Gerald Keown, president of Southern's Faculty Association. He noted that Wayne Allen, trustee chairman, will leave the board next summer as his second five-year term expires.

Honeycutt, who enjoys a close friendship with Allen despite theological differences with the conservative Tennessee pastor, may enjoy less influence with Allen's successor in choosing the next president.

Among those frequently mentioned as possible successors are:

— Mark Coppenger, 44, vice president for convention relations for the SBC Executive Committee.

— David Dockery, 39, dean of Southern's School of Theology.

— Timothy George, 42, a former Southern professor and now founding dean of Beeson Divinity School at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.

— Ken Hemphill, 44, a former Virginia pastor and Southern graduate. He recently took a church-growth position jointly sponsored by the SBC.

— Richard Land, 45, executive director of the SBC Christian Life Commission.

— Albert Mohler Jr., 33, editor of The Christian Index, the state Baptist newspaper of Georgia.

— Adrian Rogers, 61, pastor of Bellevue Church near Memphis.

Unassailable conservative credentials will be essential for the new president, said Jerry Johnson, a fundamental-conservative trustee from Aurora, Colo. The next president must be "someone who has no problem with the concept of inerrancy or the direction the convention has been going."

"I think that's essential because the seminary is moving in the direction of the convention," Johnson said. A president who doesn't wholeheartedly support the new direction will face an uphill battle, he said.

Wolfe is religion writer for the Louisville Courier-Journal in Louisville, Ky.

Anti-lottery sentiment peaking in time for general election vote

By William H. Perkins Jr.

Last in a series

Anti-lottery leaders are expressing confidence that rising sentiment against the lottery will translate into defeat for the proposal at the polls on Nov. 3.



Waller

A parade of top state officials and religious leaders on Oct. 22 in Jackson denounced the lottery proposal that will appear on the Nov. 3 general election ballot and called on Mississippians to send a clear message to pro-gambling legislators by rejecting the state-run game of chance.

At the last of nine regional anti-lottery rallies conducted by Citizens Advocating Responsible Economics (CARE), speaker after speaker criticized the lottery proposal as a cynical way to separate poor people from their money while diverting purchases from the state's legitimate businesses and contributing little to the state's budget problems.

Former Gov. Bill Waller warned that vote totals fall off toward the end of lengthy ballots, and he urged anti-lottery volunteers to make sure people seek out Amendment #1, which deals with the lottery and is printed on the final pages of the long Nov. 3 ballot.

"We want a resounding defeat so we can stop the onslaught of gambling," Waller said.

Fellow ex-Gov. Bill Allain echoed Waller's opposition, telling the crowd, "I know and you know that it is morally wrong to gamble. I do not believe the State of Mississippi should be in the gambling business."

"I believe there is a silent majority that is going to vote 'no' on this amendment," Allain said.

David Matthews, Indianola pastor and vice-president of the National Baptist Convention, called the volunteers to action by declaring, "It's time for Christians to say something. All we have to do is step aside and the devil will take over this world."



Matthews

Matthews, who has mailed a statement detailing the denomination's lottery opposition to 500 National Baptist churches in Mississippi, left no doubt about his stance.

"The church has only one position to take: all-out against the lottery," he said.

State Auditor Steve Patterson delivered one of the strongest statements against the lottery proposal by recalling the moral lessons he learned as a youth in his small church in the community of Cotton Plant, Miss.

"We must not let this fantasy called a lottery eat us all at once. I have come out against this lottery because I have an obligation as a public servant to say, 'this is going to hurt you.' Anywhere I can lend my support, I am willing to do it," Patterson said.

Former state Sen. Bill Alexander, chairman of CARE, announced that Gov. Kirk Fordice has invited a large contingent of anti-lottery officials to attend a news conference at the Governor's Mansion on Oct. 28, where Fordice will detail his longstanding opposition to the lottery.

Alexander also said the leaders of nearly every major religious denomination in the state will gather for a news conference at the Mississippi Baptist Convention building on Oct. 27, to call upon their church members to work for the defeat of the lottery proposal.

Persons interested in more information on the lottery can contact the Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention at (601) 968-3800. Citizens Advocating Responsible Economics can be reached at (601) 355-1388.

AMENDMENT NO. 1
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 512

This amendment repeals the section that prohibits a lottery and the advertising and ticket sales related to a lottery.

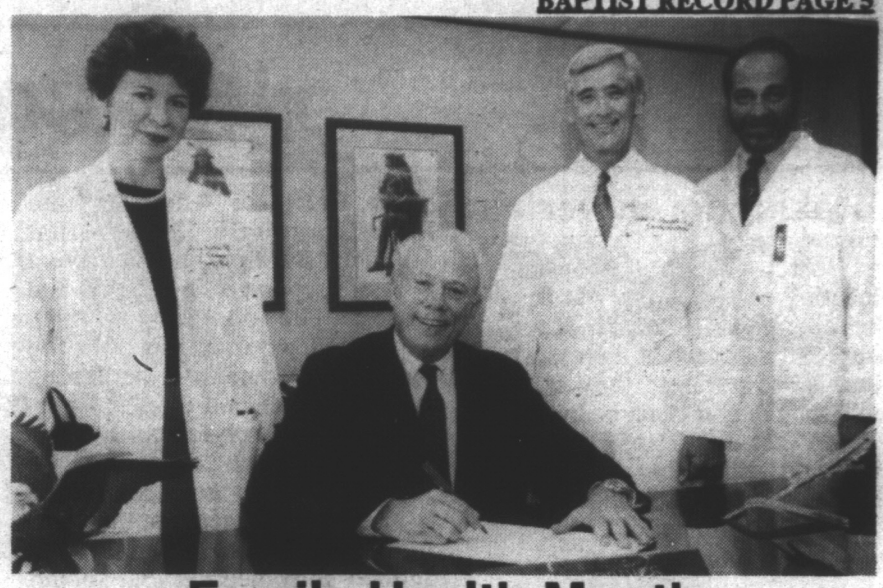
YES .....( )
NO .....(✔)



Allain



Patterson



Family Health Month

Governor Kirk Fordice recently proclaimed October as "Family Health Month" in Mississippi. The American Academy of Family Physicians, the national association for family doctors, has designated October as "Family Health Month" to encourage people to take a closer look at their own and their families' health. Observing Governor Fordice's signing of this proclamation are, from left, D. Melessa Phillips, M.D., professor and chairman of the University of Mississippi Medical Center's Department of Family Medicine; John F. Hassell, M.D., president of the Mississipi Academy of Family Physicians; and William F. Krooss, II, M.D., founder of Mississippi Family Doctors.

Virginia Baptist proposal would send funds to CBF

RICHMOND, Va. (ABP) — Virginia Baptists will consider a proposed 1993 budget in November that would send mission contributions to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, an organization of moderate-conservative Southern Baptists.

Under the proposal, to be considered at the Baptist General Association of Virginia's annual meeting Nov. 10-11 in Virginia Beach, churches could select one of three options for distributing their contributions to "global missions."

Under the plan, those contributions could be directed to the Fellowship, to the Southern Baptist Convention's traditional missions budget, or to a customized budget that funds SBC causes and non-SBC causes, including some supported by the Fellowship.

The "World Missions 1" option would forward all money to the SBC's Cooperative Program, the traditional unified missions budget.

The "World Missions 2" option would be divided evenly between the Cooperative Program a list of other causes, including the SBC Foreign and Home Mission Boards, the SBC Annuity Board and five of the six SBC seminaries (excluding Southeastern Seminary).

Also to be funded are the Baptist World Alliance, the Baptist Joint Committee, Associated Baptist Press, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, the Baptist Center for Ethics, the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond, and a series of "world mission initiatives" to be suggested by members and staff of the Virginia Baptist General Board.

MOHLER

from page 2

The Christian voter bears the responsibility to plow through competing statistics, policy proposals, and position papers of the candidates in order to employ common and reason to the issues.

The proposals reflect genuine disagreements over the proper role of government in the economic process, the balance between spending cuts and taxes, and proposed means of invigorating the economy.

The founding fathers understood that democracy is a frail vessel. It works and endures only when citizens participate in the process with understanding, principle, and civility. The Christian understands something further: Citizenship is a matter of discipleship. Investigate the issues, consider the candidates, pray, take stock of your convictions and full benefit of consecrated common sense, and strike a blow for liberty.

Mohler is editor of THE CHRISTIAN INDEX, newsjournal of Georgia Baptists.

Irrelevant Baptist media creating crisis, warns ABP head

By Marv Knox

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (ABP) — The Baptist media's failure to produce news that is understandable to laypeople has created a "crisis in Baptist life," veteran journalist Charles Overby told Associated Baptist Press board members during their fall meeting.

But since the Baptist media crisis parallels a crisis in the general media, Overby added, Baptist journalists also face an opportunity to communicate news to increasing numbers of people.

Overby, who completed two years as ABP board chairman at the Nashville meeting, is president of Freedom Forum, a foundation formed by the Gannett newspaper chain to promote freedom of the press and First Amendment issues. He has been editor of daily newspapers in Nashville and Jackson, Miss.

"This 1992 (presidential election) campaign has convinced me that we have a crisis in the general media," Overby said. "And we have a crisis in the religious media.

"Ironically and sadly, the crisis is the same.... We are failing to connect with our audiences.

"In the general media, reporters and editors find their audiences dwindling. In the religious community, reporters and editors find their work being consumed more by professional clergy and church staffs and less by laymen and laywomen. Simply put, we are writing more and more for fewer and fewer people."

Freedom Forum has conducted an evaluation of the 1992 election campaign, Overby said. "The big headline is this: The candidates and the public are bypassing the traditional and general media for alternative, specialized media.

"Gone are the major emphases on newspapers and network news. Now the candidates place new and greater emphasis on radio and television talk shows, toll-free 800 numbers and a host of other direct-access media outlets.

"The candidates have learned — and the public is discovering — that the mainstream media are increasingly irrelevant to people's lives."

The Freedom Forum study found three talk-show hosts among the "10 most-frequently mentioned opinion leaders or pundits" — Larry King, Arsenio Hall, and Phil Donahue — Overby reported.

"This points to a grim reality that people are relying more on non-traditional sources for their information," Overby said.

"I believe the same thing is happening within the religious media in general and within some Baptist media in particular," he continued.

Knox is editor of Kentucky WESTERN RECORDER.

Letters to the editor

Looking for materials

Editor:

Hebron Church is interested in locating puppet materials for our budding drama ministry. If any of our sister churches have scripts, music, of puppets they wish to sell, they may contact us by calling (601) 226-6773 or by writing Hebron Baptist Church, Rt. 3, Box 832, Grenada, MS 38901.

Keith Powell
Grenada

Prayers led Jean to China's Hui people

Editor:

"Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his harvest." These words are a command from the Lord to enter into intercessory prayer for world missions.

In August, 1990 the Springfield Baptist Church voted to accept a prayer assignment from the Foreign Mission Board. Our assignment: 7.6 million Hui (Whey) people of China living in Anhui Province in North China. They are of Moslem background and have little or no evangelical witness among them.

When Springfield began its prayer assignment there were only 23 believers among the millions of Hui people. We prayed prayers of thanksgiving that Christ died for them even as he did for us, and that the 23 believers among the Hui people would be given courage to share Christ with others. We asked the Holy Spirit to take the meager resources and convict the Hui people of their need for Christ. We prayed for positive witnesses to the Hui people. And finally, we prayed that any one of us might be willing to go if the Lord wanted it that way.

In the membership of our church was a former missionary, Mimi Jean Moore. She and her late husband, Elton Moore, had served two terms in Indonesia. During the next months she applied for approval to the Cooperative Services International, an arm of the Foreign Mission Board.

When the assignment came it was to teach English at the University of Anhui in Anhui Providence in Hefei China. Hefei is located in North China among the Hui people. Moore accepted the assignment and left for Hefei August 17, 1991. This was one year from the time our church began praying for the Hui people.

We have continued to pray for Mimi Jean and the Hui people. We are believing the Lord will use her to reach some key people from among the Hui with whom she is working.

Robert J. Sanderson
Morton

Godly people needed in government

Editor:

In an article published Sept. 12, 1992 regarding child care regulations, the term "Church-State threat" strongly implies that Southern Baptists should have a goal of "separation of church and state." The concerns rightly expressed were mainly that the federal government is beginning to fund church-run day care centers, and that with federal funding comes federal controls.

While these concerns are shared by me, I am alarmed that the "separation of church and state" was implied as something that should be desired. It seems that the term came from the same group that has rewritten our school history books so that our children do not know that we have a Christian heritage. Our Constitution does not call for the separation of church and state. It only prohibits the state from interfering with the free exercise of our faith and from establishing a state-sponsored church.

The approximately 200 founding fathers of our country were well aware of the church influence on the government. Even the 12 founding fathers who did not leave a written confession of faith in Christ had a strong belief that the government cannot function properly apart from the Christian ethics. In fact, the basic laws enacted by the early Congress were the encoding of God's laws as given through Moses.

I believe that Jesus meant more than "pay your taxes" when he said, "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's ...." Does it not also mean that godly people should occupy responsible positions in government, that we should put them there, and that we should use our influence to make the government do that which is right?

"When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn" (Proverbs 29:2).

Bill Ashley
Jackson

CBF not newsworthy

Editor:

I was very surprised to see the first advertisement by the "Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Mississippi" in the **Record** and that you would accept an open attempt to proselytize Southern Baptists. Is it also your policy to accept such advertisements from Roman Catholics, Mormons, Muslims, and other denominations or religious sects? I do not believe that such self-serving advertisements should be in a Southern Baptist paper.

Of course from reading other anti-Southern Baptist publicity you have given to the "Alliance" and to the "Cooperative" I am no longer confident that the **Record** is the voice of Mississippi Southern Baptists. As just one example the article on page 5 of the issue of Oct. 8, 1992, about the CBF meeting is a blatant attempt to create dissension among Southern Baptists. With words such as "...narrow spirit" of Southern Baptists;" SBC in "turmoil;" "plotting to take over our state convention;" amusing and tragic, the author of the article quoting himself as an authority; the entire article seeks to alarm Southern Baptists with half-truths and rumors.

Unless the **Record** is now totally submissive to the "Cooperative" and the "Alliance," I see nothing newsworthy in such articles and see only harm to Southern Baptists and to our efforts to tell others of Jesus Christ.

Walter J. Deal
Biloxi

Editor's Note: We would not accept advertisements from such denominations as you mention. CBF is not a denomination, but is still within the SBC.

LOUISIANA BAPTIST CONVENTION
Executive Board
Mark Short, Executive Director

P.O. BOX 311 • ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA 71309 • (318) 448-3402 / 1-800-622-6549 / FAX 445-0055

October 8, 1992

Dear Friends,

What would we do without each other? Never has there been such an outpouring of love in the midst of hurt. You have allowed us the joy of seeing tragedy turned into triumph.

If anyone ever doubted that cooperation is still the benchmark of Southern Baptists – Andrew destroys all doubt! Your cooperation has been our salvation. Intentionality has been your practice. Human impulse may create an interest in others but the love of God creates an intention toward others. Only God knows all the good that has been deliberately accomplished. Thank you Southern Baptists.

It is impossible to express all we feel. Please know of our joy in your spirit, our stewardship of your gifts, and our amazement in your generosity. We are better people because of you.

With eternal gratitude,

Mark Short
Executive Director
Louisiana Baptist Convention

John Sullivan
Executive Director
Florida Baptist Convention

Resolutions

Simpson Association has passed resolutions requesting consideration of the inclusion of directors of missions and retired Baptist ministers in the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center's discount program for pastors. The association also passed a resolution requesting the convention and various boards and commissions to work to prevent Clarke College from falling into possession of groups with contrary doctrinal positions to the Clarke heritage. Also, the association agrees to help support the school if the closure is reversed.

Beulah Church, Humphreys Association, has passed a resolution for reopening Clarke College and is committed to pray, support with financial resources, and aid in recruitment of students.

Perry County Association has passed a resolution requesting the Mississippi Baptist Convention to increase its giving to SBC causes in the 1993 budget by 1% to 38%. This is based on Eastern Europe's openess to the gospel.

Newton County Association, Ron Gilstrap, moderator, has passed a resolution opposing the lottery.

The Deacons of First Church, Jackson, have passed a resolution opposing the lottery.

Centrifuge program has plan for year-round special events

NASHVILLE — Centrifuge isn't just for summer anymore, and it isn't just for youths.

The creators of Centrifuge at the Baptist Sunday School Board have come up with three new events, two for youth in the winter and spring, and one for adults in the spring and summer.

Ski-Fuge

The first youth event is "Ski-Fuge" which offers participants full days of snow skiing combined with devotional times and contemporary worship experiences. Those interested can choose from several week-long events next year at two different locations.

Ski-Fuge weeks in Winter Park, Colo., will be March 14-18, March 18-22, and March 22-26. The cost is $225 per person. Ski-Fuge at Glorieta Conference Center in New Mexico will be held Dec. 27-31. Prices at Glorieta will vary according to housing accomodations.

Centri-Break

The second event for youth is a "Spring Break" type offering called "Centri-Break." This week-long event combines all-day beach activities with group fellowship and contemporary worship experiences.

Centri-Break will be held at three different times next spring at Endless Summer Retreat, located about 15 miles west of Panama City, Fla. Scheduled Centri-Break weeks include March 29-April 2, April 5-9 and April 12-16. The cost is $125 per person.

Breakaway

The third event — designed as "a Centrifuge for adults" — is called "Breakaway." Held at four different locations in the spring and summer, this event combines recreational activities, spiritual enrichment sessions, Bible study, and Christian fellowship.

Breakaway will be held at the following locations next year: Grindewald, Switzerland, June 22-July 7; Alaska, Aug. 8-15, "Inside Passage" Cruise between Vancouver, British Columbia to the famous glacier bays; Lake Yale Baptist Conference Center, Eustis, Fla., March 29-April 2; and Lake Barkley State Resort Park, Cadiz, Ky., April 26-30.

Information

For information about these new events, write to Ski-Fuge/Centri-Break, or Breakaway, MSN 166, Nashville, TN 37234, or call (615) 251-3832.

HouseTops

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light: and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops. Matthew 10:27 NAS

October 29, 1992

HouseTops is a supplement to the **Baptist Record** and is produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

PRAYERGRAM

Oct. 29-Nov. 12,1992

PRAY for Bahrain (Middle East) that the Lord will call out teachers for this country. There is a great need for those who can teach English and music.

PRAY for a team of 40 Bolivians who will be going to churches in Paraguay this month to assist in evangelistic visitation and services. This is a part of the 500th anniversary celebration of Columbus discovering the new world. Pray that at least 1,000 people might come to know Jesus as Saviour in these services.

PRAY for Bulgaria (eastern Europe), for the raising up and training of leadership in the churches of the Bulgaria Baptist Union. Ask the Lord to give each one a vision for starting new congregations across the country.

PRAY for Nina Bickerstaff, church planter strategist in Fort Worth,Tex. Pray for two new apartment ministries that have recently been started. Pray for volunteers to help tutor elementary school children who live in low-rent apartment complexes.

PRAY for Bill Gordon, interfaith witness area director of Lilburn, Ga. Pray for him as he witnesses especially to those who follow the New Age Movement.

PRAY for Gordon and Alice Tennis, recent graduates of Southern Seminary, as they start a new work in Hastings, Minn. Pray that they will be able to locate a core group and find prospects to grow a church.

PRAY that young people in the SBC will continue to answer God's call to serve overseas. The number appointed in 1991 totaled 400. This was down from 414 in 1990. In order to reach our Bold Mission Thrust goal of supporting 5,000 missionaries by the year 2000, there must be around 470 appointments per year until the end of this decade.

PRAY for the Lay Missions Conference to be held at First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss. on Nov. 9,1992. The theme is, "Selecting Your Ministry in the Marketplace." Also pray for the Mississippi Baptist Convention to be held Nov. 10 and 11, 1992 in Jackson.

CONTINUE TO PRAY for the Mississippi-Zimbabwe Partnership and the selection of an on-the-field couple to coordinate this partnership. After effectively serving in that capacity for several months, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Powell are to return to the United States in November 1992, because of problems in getting a work permit.

PRAY that Christian people will vote "NO" on the lottery on Nov. 3. This will be the first time that the people of all the counties in the state have a chance to vote their convictions on gambling. HT



Annual Conference of Mississippi Baptist Ministers' Wives

First Baptist Church, Jackson

Monday, November 9, 1992,
1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

- Purpose: To provide inspiration, fellowship, personal growth, information and support for the minister's wife!
- Finances: There is no cost for this conference.
- Personnel: Norris and Joyce Smith, Nashville, Tenn.
- Child Care: Available on a limited basis. Use registration form to schedule this care.



Registration Form
Ministers' Wives Conference
First Baptist Church, Jackson • November 9, 1992

Complete the registration form and return to Julius C. Thompson, Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department, P. 0. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

Name _____ Home Phone No. _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Association _____ Church _____

Husband's Position _____

Names and ages of children you will bring: _____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

1993 Mississippi MasterLife Workshops

January 21-23, 1993
January 28-30, 1993
South Louisville Baptist Church
Louisville, Miss.
(both weekends required for certification)

May 17-21, 1993
Harrisburg Baptist Church
Tupelo, Miss.

- ***The conferences in Louisville will be conducted for two weekends on Thursday 6:30-9:30 p.m., Friday 6:30-9:30 p.m. and Saturday 8:30-5:30 p.m. The conference in Tupelo begins at 6:45 p.m. on Monday and conclude at 11:30 a.m. on Friday.***

- ***A registration fee of $95 per person is required which covers all leadership materials for the workshop.***

- ***A total refund will be made up to two weeks before the workshop. From two weeks until Friday before the workshop participants will receive only $40 in refunds. On the first day of the workshop no refund can be given. This policy reflects the cost of enlisted leadership.***

- ***Lodging and meals are extra. Reservations are to be made by the individual participants. Upon receipt of the workshop registration, suggested facilities for lodging will be sent to participants.***

- ***To register, mail the attached registration form with $95 per person to Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Discipleship Training Department, Mose D. Dangerfield, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.***

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

Place of workshop _____ Date of workshop _____

Name _____ Position _____

Address _____ Home telephone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church _____ Church telephone _____

Send this form and the $95 pre-registration fee to Mississippi Baptist Convention Board • Discipleship Training Department • Mose D. Dangerfield • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530.



Student Day at Ch

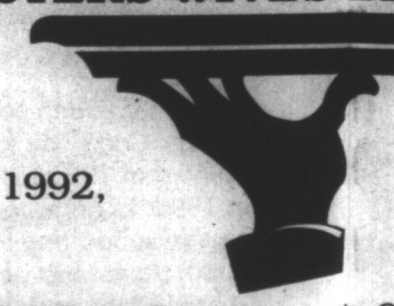
1992 Theme: Love
Surpasses Knowle
Ephesians 3:14-19

Student Day at Christmas is designed to allows college and university students God has helped them and been an important pa pus. This Christmas, encourage your church to Student Day at Christmas program. It is schedu Christmas holidays while students are at home. day, December 27.



Whether your church ha college students, Stud an exciting time of sharing and wo ment of Student Work, MBCB at 968- tions on program planning.

BIVOCATIONAL MINIS
MINISTERS WIVES BI



DATE: November 11, 1992,
7:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Admiral Benbow Restaurant, 9 Street, Jackson.

PURPOSE: To provide information and fello persons in bivocational ministry.

FINANCES: There is no charge for this even will be served.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Matt Buckles • P. O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205



t Christmas
Love That
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14-19

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968-3800, ext. 3899, for sugges-

INISTERS AND
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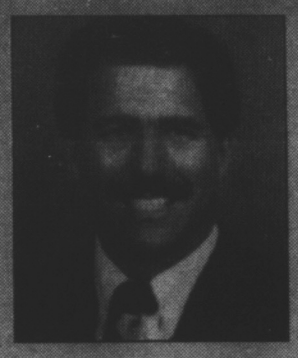
d fellowship for those

s event. A complimentary meal

39205 • Telephone: 968-3800, ext. 3907

Lay Missions Conference

Selecting your ministry in the marketplace





Bruce and Laura Allen
Centerville, Georgia



Jeannette Clift George
Houston, Texas

The purpose of the Lay Missions Conference is to help explore ways to extend Christ's Kingdom through the concept of Marketplace Ministry. If we are to win Mississippi and our world to Jesus in our generation, it is significant that each of us become marketplace ministers.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
JACKSON, MISS.

November 9, 1992

sponsored by
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

Registration form on back page

PROGRAM

1:00 p.m.
Missions Seminars
Volunteers in Missions
Lifestyle Evangelism
Prayer Ministry

Missions Fellowships
• Educational Missions
• Agri-Missions • HAMS
• Medical-Dental
• Construction • Church Renewal
• Campers on Mission
• Cooperative Program Champions

3:00 p.m.
Ministry in the Marketplace
Featuring: Bruce and Laura Allen

5:00 p.m.
Missions Banquet and Program
Cost: $7.50
Featuring: Jeannette Clift George
"Soldiers Again" Quartet from
Daniel Memorial, Jackson

Lay Missions Conference Speakers

• Agricultural Missions, James Smith • Campers on Mission, James Ray
• Church Renewal, Bob Pipkin • Construction, Sonny May • Educational Missions, Bill Rieves
• HAMS, Dale Little • Medical-Dental, Ben Nash • Volunteers In Missions, Estus Mason
• Prayer Ministry, Charles and Indy Whitten • Lifestyle Evangelism, Bruce and Laura Allen
• Partnership Missions, Bill Hardy •



Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

DEPARTMENT OF

BROADCAST SERVICES

The new **Video Tape Service** catalog is now available from Broadcast Services Department, MBCB.

Inside you will find hundreds of tape listings, ranging from instructional tapes to wholesome Christian entertainment. Use these tapes for special Bible studies, group awareness meetings, and for leadership training.

The **VTS** catalog is available free of charge from Broadcast Services. Simply call Judy Shelton at 968-3800, ext. 3978 or write: Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Broadcast Services, VTS Catalog, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530 to receive your free catalog.

BIBLE DRILL CLINICS

DiscipleALL: Making Champions

Training For Church and Associational Judges, Callers and Leaders

SATURDAY: NOVEMBER 14
Calvary Baptist, Jackson
(Begins at 9:30 a.m.)

MONDAY: NOVEMBER 16
Hernando Baptist, Hernando
FBC, Greenwood
FBC, Biloxi

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 17
FBC, Tupelo
FBC, Kosciusko
FBC, Hattiesburg

THURSDAY: NOVEMBER 19
FBC, Starkville
FBC, Meridian
FBC, Brookhaven

AGENDA:
6:30 p.m. How to call, judge and keep time
7:30 p.m. Your choice - *Maintaining Bible Drill* or *New Ideas for Bible Drill*

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November 12
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HouseTops



Digging out a place for God

Church planter David Draper (left) talks with students from Southwest Seminary who were in Boston, Mass., as part of the seminary's Urban Evangelism Practicum class. "We're here to dig out a place for God," Draper told the students.

Draper, himself a 1984 graduate of Southwestern, offered two lessons to the students as they stood in the humidity of a hot August afternoon.

"Make no apologies for your work," he said, " and don't be intimidated."

Future classes are planned for other large cities to train the students in urban evangelism methods. The program is funded by a $300,000 gift to the school. (Photo by Scott Collins, SWBTS)

SBC agencies begin broadcast ministry as Russian pilot project gets underway

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Representatives of Foreign Mission Board and Radio and Television Commission have begun work on a pilot project involving broadcast ministry opportunities in the former Soviet Union.

Don Kammerdiener, FMB executive vice president, and Sam James, vice president for Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, met Oct. 19 in Charlotte, N.C., with Jack Johnson, RTVC president, and Richard T. McCartney, executive vice president, to discuss ways the two agencies can work together.

The RTVC began transmitting two hours of programming weekly in the Russian republic in July.

The two agencies agreed to work cooperatively to construct a pilot project to build on the unique aspects of the unexpected Russian opportunities. They agreed to propose to Baptists in St. Petersburg a one-year project limited to the St. Petersburg area. If Baptists there agree, the Foreign Mission Board could select a coordinator, possibly a volunteer, to work with Baptists there to design a follow-up strategy.

"Television may very well be one of the methods God wants to use in these closing days of the 20th century to touch this vast area of the world," Johnson added. "I pray that we and the staff of the Foreign Mission Board may be able to refine a powerful strategy for taking full advantage of this significant opportunity."

Black BSU student leaders meet for leadership training

By Weaver McCracken

Twenty-five key black student leaders from campuses across Mississippi met in Jackson at the Baptist Building recently for training and to plan statewide black student BSU programs for 1992-93. Leadership principles were explored and students were trained in conducting effective committee work.

Plans were laid for the Feb. 5-6, 1993, Black Student Retreat which will be held at Camp Garaywa in Clinton. Bill Perkins, Black Church Extension, Home Mission Board, will be the speaker. Seminar topics were chosen as well as plans made for a Gospel Choir Concert. Two hundred fifty students, primarily from historically black campuses, are expected.

Sammy Agnew, black work director at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville, challenged the group to become effective Christian leaders. Agnew said to be a good leader, you have to do two things: have the Lord in your life and be willing to be used as a servant. Agnew said the students need to understand the "awesomeness of what God has chosen them to do. To be a leader, you must know his will. Before you can know his will, you have to know him."

Agnew said that Christian leadership may not always be the popular thing to do. As a Christian, "whether you like it or not, you are a leader. Someone is looking up to you.."

Agnew encouraged the students in their task. "Jesus did not recruit angels to do his work — he chose regular human beings. It is a privilege to be a servant of the Lord!"

The Margaret Lackey State Missions Offering helps support the work of Baptist Student Union with black students throughout Mississippi.

McCracken is a consultant in the Student Work Department, MBCB.

'93 World Conference of Baptist Men to be hosted by National Baptist Conv.

NASHVILLE, (BP) — The Sixth World Conference of Baptist Men is scheduled May 27-30, 1993, at the Baptist World Center in Nashville, W.J. Isbell Jr., Baptist World Alliance men's department director, has announced.

Hosted by the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc., of Nashville, the Sixth World Conference will include "Baptist Men's University" sponsored by the Memphis-based Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission's adult division.

The BWA conference will include a 12-hour management course for business and professional Baptist leaders. Fred Roach of Dallas and James Williams of Memphis will lead these sessions.

Roach is a retired chief executive officer of Centennial Homes, a division of Weyerhaueser. Now he directs the leadership training division of the Baylor hospital system and the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

For more information contact W.J. Isbell Jr., BWA Men's Conference Registration, 2300 Quail Dr. S.E., Bessemer, AL 35203, (205) 426-4536; or Baptist Men's University, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, TN 38104, (901) 272-2461.

Christian publishing world shaken as Thomas Nelson purchases Word

DALLAS, Texas (EP) — The world of Christian book and record publishing was shaken up in late September, as one of the largest names in Christian publishing changed hands.

Thomas Nelson Publishers announced Sept. 28 that it had agreed to purchase Word Inc. from Capital Cities/ABC for $72 million. The cash transaction is expected to be completed by the end of November.

With annual revenue of $100 million and 550 employees, Word is one of the world's largest Christian communications companies. Word President Roland Lundy praised the partnership, and said, "We at Word remain committed to our mission, dedicated to service, and called to excellence."



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First Baptist Church, Columbus, $30,596
First Baptist Church, Brookhaven, $25,380
First Baptist Church, Brandon, $18,047
First Baptist Church, Gulfport, $17,568
Parkway Baptist Church, Jackson, $16,935
Calvary Baptist Church, Tupelo, $16,888
First Baptist Church, Clinton, $13,986
First Baptist Church, Meridian, $13,745

HIGHEST PER CAPITA GIVING*:

Sardis Baptist Church, Hazlehurst, $33.94
New Hope Baptist Church, Calhoun City, $33.39
Mantee Baptist Church, Mantee, $30.93
Shiloh Baptist Church, Big Creek, $30.49
Berwick Baptist Church, Liberty, $29.00
Yellow Leaf Baptist Church, Oxford, $24.81
Bethsaida Baptist Church, French Camp, $23.53
Holmesville Baptist Church, McComb, $23.15
Providence Baptist Church, Cleveland, $22.93
Center Ridge Baptist Church, Dekalb, $22.85

*Figures are for January-December 1991 and were verified through your state convention office and designated gifts to the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, Home Mission Board Accounting Department, and Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Based on churches with resident membership of 25 or more.

HMB
HOME MISSION BOARD, SBC

Maryland group approves church led by a woman

CLARKSBURG, Md. (BP)— Maryland's Montgomery Baptist Association voted Oct. 18 to extend membership to a church led by a female pastor, despite a warning that at least one member congregation, Wildwood Church in Bethesda, would terminate its affiliation with the association as a result.

Messengers at the association's annual meeting voted 62-18 to adopt the recommendation of a women in ministry task force that leadership by ordained women not be considered a test of fellowship for a petitioning church. In a separate vote, they agreed 59-19 to receive Liberian Christian Baptist Church in Silver Spring into membership. The church's pastor, Victoria Russell, is a woman.

The 75.6% vote barely passed muster on a constitutional requirement for a 75% vote to admit new members to the association.

Homecomings

Everett, Mendenhall: Nov. 1; 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; dinner in fellowship hall, noon; William A. McWilliams, pastor.

Flag Lake, Sarah: Nov. 1; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 10:45 a.m.; John Bramlett, guest speaker; covered dish dinner in fellowship hall; singing, 1:30 p.m.; The Praisemen, music; Bob Kroll, pastor.

Calvary, Durant: Nov. 1; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; B. A. Conway, former pastor, guest speaker; covered dish meal served in fellowship hall following morning service; afternoon singing with special music provided by Jerry and Spin Smith, Robert Toney, and Rob Futral.

First, Coffeeville: Nov. 1; services, 9:45 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Hal Bates, Amory, guest speaker; covered dish in fellowship hall at noon; Jill Arrington Clark, Water Valley, music; Truman D. Scarborough, pastor.

Evansville, Coldwater: Nov. 1; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; Jerry Price, Harrisburg, La., guest speaker; Rick and Cheryl Martin, Batesville, music; dinner in fellowship hall following worship service; 1:30 p.m. singing; Bernette Fielder, pastor.

White Oak, (Smith): Oct. 31, sesquicentennial homecoming, preaching and a reception, 6:30 p.m.; Nov. 1, services, 10:30 a.m., lunch at noon on the grounds and 1:15 p.m. service.

West End, Louisville: Nov. 1, Sunday School, 11 a.m.: dinner and fellowship after Sunday School; service, 2 p.m.; Wayne Hill, pastor.

Cash, Lena: Nov. 1, 11 a.m., covered dish in fellowship hall, noon. Edwin Rhinewalt of Columbus, guest singer. Parks Marler, interim pastor.

Revival Dates

Midway, Jackson: Nov. 1-4; Sunday, 10:15 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; John E. Smith, Columbia, S.C., evangelist; W.F. (Bill) Wilkinson, music; covered-dish supper and gospel singing featuring Shepherds of Love, Mize, 6 p.m., Oct. 31.

Flag Lake, Sarah: Nov. 2-4; 7 p.m.; John Bramlett, evangelist; Bob Kroll, pastor.

First, Nettleton: Nov. 1-4; Phil Glisson, associate pastor and staff evangelist, Leawood, Memphis, Tenn., evangelist; Jim Armstrong, First, Nettleton, music; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; George C. Johnson, pastor.

Maybank, Hattiesburg: Nov. 1-5; Harold Ishee, Jones County, evangelist; Greg Smith, Petal, music; Sunday, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs., 7 p.m.; George Aultman, pastor.

Arrowood, Meridian: Nov. 1-4; Tracey Hipps, Laurel, evangelist; John W. Pace, Arrowood, music; services, 7 p.m.; Kevin Griffin, pastor.

Big Level, Wiggins: Nov. 1-4; David Perry, evangelist; Dallas Rayburn, music; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed, 7 p.m.; Charley Rempel, pastor.

Parkhill, Jackson: Nov. 1-4; E.N. Sullivan, Florence, evangelist; Jim Chance, Parkhill, music; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; 7 p.m. weekdays; Jimmy Sellers, pastor.

First, Columbia: Nov. 1-4; Fred Wolfe, evangelist; and Ed Keyes, music, both presently serving at Cottage Hill Church, Mobile, Ala.; services, Mon.-Wed., 12:15 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Griffin Street, Moss Point: Nov. 1-4; James Messer of Mobile, Ala., evangelist; and Bob Chichester of First Church, Moss Point, music. Jerry Watts, pastor.

Glade, Laurel: Nov. 1-5; 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Bill Bozeman, evangelist, and Steve Shoemaker, music, both of Mobile, Ala. Rayford Moore, interim pastor.

Interstate, Shaw: Nov. 1-4; 7 p.m., Jim and Cheryl Hill, evangelists, and Gerald and Cindy Simmons, music, all of Gulfport. Robert Haney, pastor.

Revival Results

Cloverdale, Natchez: Sept. 21-25; Steve Purvis, evangelist; Dale Little, music; seven professions of faith; two by letter; Weyland Gauntt, pastor.

Mississippi Baptist Med Center offers variety of classes in Nov.

Mississippi Baptist Medical Center is offering the following classes: special aerobic for new and expectant mothers, Nov. 2; breastfeeding is a natural, Nov. 2, 7 p.m.; adult swimming lessons, Nov. 2, 9 a.m.and 4:30 p.m.; cardiac rebounders support group, Nov. 2, 6:30 p.m.; sibling adjustment, Nov. 3, 6:30 p.m.; supermarket adventure tour, Nov. 4, 8 a.m.; techniques of running and walking for fitness meets at 5:30 p.m., Nov. 4; grandparenting class, Nov. 5; arthritis seminar, Nov. 9, 12:15 p.m.; nutrition with tradition, Nov. 12, noon and 5:30 p.m.; cancer support group, Nov. 11, 7 p.m.; and diabetes exercise program, call 968-1766 for time and date.

For information on other classes, call 968-5135.

Southern appoints third ethics professor to counter Simmons' pro-abortion views

By Mark Wingfield

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (ABP) — A third Christian ethics professor will be added to the faculty of Southern Seminary in an apparent attempt by trustees to counter the teachings of professor Paul Simmons.

Trustees met behind closed doors for two hours Oct. 12 to discuss a subcommittee's study of charges against Simmons. He has been the target of intense trustee scrutiny for several years due to his support for abortion rights.

Seminary President Roy Honeycutt said the rules of the closed meeting meant he could not comment any further.

For trustees to initiate the creation of a faculty position is a departure from past procedure. Such decisions traditionally have begun with the faculty and administration and worked their way to trustees for final approval.

Decisions to add faculty also have been based on increasing student loads and the availability of funding, seminary sources said. However, neither of those factors appears to have driven the trustee decision.

Wingfield is news director, Kentucky WESTERN RECORDER; Marv Knox contributed to this story.

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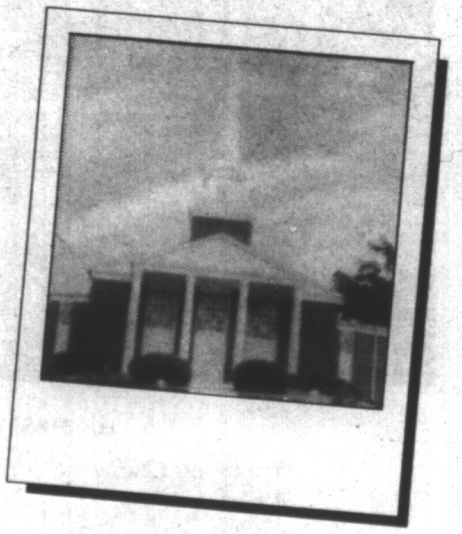
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Just for the Record



Southside Church, Greenville, recently held an Acteen-GA recognition service with the theme "Letting Our Light Shine." GAs pictured (left to right) 1st row, are Kim Mallard, Kate Mallard, Nikki Jones, Kimberly White; 2nd row, Carly Correro, Kelli Anderson, Kameron Palmer, and Shanna Jones. Acteens pictured on 3rd row are Angie Mullins, queen rgent in service and service aide; Karolyn Jones, queen regent; Melissa Jones, queen with scepter; Mikki Hallman, queen; Christy Vaughn, queen; and Phyllis Gafford, queen.



Fairfield Church, Moselle, traveled to Clinton Southern Baptist Church now known as Harvest Baptist Church, Clinton, Ill., during the week of July 24. Revival was held as well as Vacation Bible School. A new roof was also put on the church. Pictured, left to right, front row, are Eric Hattaway, Cherie Brown, Christy Bradley, Heather Cooley, Jennifer Atwood, Flossie Bradley, Dana Cooley, Christy Howard, Crystal Hill, Bea Bryant, Malia Terry, Shannon Hill, April Harper, Gracie Ratcliff (VBS director), Margaret Fortenberry, Patsy Hill, Eleanor Robinson, Joyce McKenzie, John McKenzie; back row, are Chris Anderson, David Morgan, Robert Fortenberry (pastor of Fairfield Church), Steven Parker, Brian Shows, Jason Dean, Jason Keith, Jody Bryant, Dwayne Eavenson, Wesley Carter, James Hill, John Sumner, and Audis Anderson.



First Church, Brandon, recently held an Acteen recognition service. Those recognized are pictured above, left to right: Mandy Montgomery, queen; Elizabeth Didlake, queen with scepter; and Heather Hovanec, queen.



Alexander Memorial Church, Hollandale, recently held a GA recognition service. Those receiving badges are pictured, left to right: front row, Heather Donham, Ashley Criswell; second row, Candice Donham, Amy Tinnon, and Terry Donham. At back is GA leader, Kathy Donham.



Alexander Memorial Church, Hollandale, recently held an Acteens coronation service. Seven of the nine young women who received crowns also received scepters. Front row, left to right: Christi Roberson, Jackie Donham, Mary Harrington, Robin Ellision. Back row, left to right: Karen Johnston, Keither Martin, Mandy Martin, Mandy Avis, and Mary Harrington. Acteen leaders are Betty Johnston and Ann Martin.

Arrowood Church, Meridian, will feature Gene Fortenbery and the Steeles in a gospel concert on Oct. 31 at 7 p.m. Kevin Griffin is pastor.

Bethel Church, Etta, will host its seventh annual Bible Conference, Nov. 2-4. Services will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Monday. Meals and lodging will be provided. For more information, call 534-2394. Harvey Reeves is pastor.

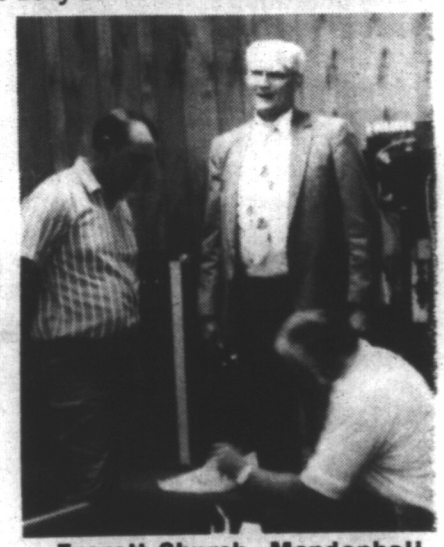
The youth ministry of McDowell Road Church, Jackson, will present a walk-through drama entitled The Judgement House, Oct 29-31. The times are Thursday, 6-11 p.m.; Friday, 6-11 p.m.; and Saturday, 6-12 p.m. The age is limited to 6th grade and up. For more information, call 372-1594.

Calvary Church, Durant, will have a children's funtime festival for children up to 11 years old on Oct. 31 from 6-8 p.m.

Grandview Church, Pearl, will host a Disney carnival on Oct. 31 from 4-8 p.m. For information, call 939-4215. Wade Chappell is pastor.

Van Winkle Church, Jackson, will host family festival '92 on Oct. 31 from 5-9 p.m.

Harvest day festival will be held at **Mt. Horeb Church, Collins** on Nov. 1. Activities include fun and games, harvest stew, and an auction. For more information call 722-4944 or 765-3318.



Everett Church, Mendenhall, recently held a note burning to retire the debt on its building. Shown participating in the ceremony are William A. McWilliams, pastor, and Gary Sullivan and Edward Evans, trustees.

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Missionary News

Rick and Nedra Carter, missionaries to Argentina, will not be returning to Argentina for health reasons. Rick is a music missionary and is now available for interim, supply or full-time minister of music. The Carters are living in Hattiesburg and can be reached by calling 583-4041.

James and Dorothy Gilbert were appointed missionaries to Ecuador in 1957 and retired this year. They worked in church planting and church development. In 1981 they transferred to Panama and served with the Metro Baptist Association. He was pastor of First Church, Clara, prior to being appointed. The Gilberts have three children and are now living in Bay St. Louis.

Marvin and Jean Fitts served in Peru and Mexico since 1959 and retired December 1991. He was professor of religious education at the Peru and Mexico City seminaries. They have three grown children. He worked in religious education in West Memphis, Ark. prior to being appointed.

Mike and Kathie Chute, missionaries to Asia and the Pacific, are in the States (address: 4944 Old Highway 11, Hattiesburg, MS 39402). She is the former Katherine Benge of Brookhaven.

Dot Emmons, missionary to Tanzania, is in the States (address: 1631 Main St., Franklin, La. 70438). A native of Mississippi, she was born in Lake.

Tony and Karen Gray, missionaries to Brazil, are in the States (address: 322 S. 36th Ave., Hattiesburg, MS 39401). He considers Moss Point his hometown. The former Karen Burns, she was born in Waynesboro.

David and Robin Johnson, missionaries to Japan, are on the field (address: 1-15-1 Momochi, Sawara-ku, Fukuoka-shi 814, Japan). She is the former Robin Parks of Columbus.

Staff Changes

Philadelphia Church, Lafayette Association, has called **Mike Weaver** as pastor, effective Sept. 13. A Southaven native, he was educated at Blue Mountain College. He previously served Ellard Church in Calhoun Association.

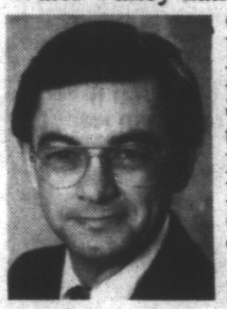
Dale Nowell, a native of Kosciusko, has been called as full-time pastor of **Oak Grove Church,** Yazoo County. He holds a diploma in pastoral ministries from seminary extension. His previous place of service was Providence Church, Attala County.

Park Place Church, Brandon, has called **Cindy Sansing** as director of children's ministries. She is a native of Birmingham and was educated at the University of Alabama.

Chester Carlisle has resigned as pastor of **Mt. Zion Church,** Clarke Association, to accept the pastorate of Pleasant Hill Church, Harrisburg, Ark.

Jeff Floyd, after serving as minister of education for 11 months at **Calvary Church, Greenwood,** has been called as pastor of Calvary Church. Floyd is a graduate of William Carey College and Southwestern Seminary. He previously served as pastor of Bigbee Church, Monroe Association. Joe May is interim pastor.

Parkway Church, Natchez, has called **Jimmy D. Sartain** as pastor, effective Oct. 18. The Water Valley native is a graduate of Delta State University and New Orleans Seminary. Sartain is going to Natchez from First Church, Covington, Tenn. He previously served First Church, Coldwater.



Sartain

Names in the News

North Columbia Church, Marion Association, ordained **Charles Michael "Mike" Bass** as deacon on Sept. 13. Philip Duncan, pastor, preached the ordination sermon.

Jerry Swimmer has returned to full time evangelism in preaching and singing. He is living in Iuka (Box 627) and can be contacted at (601) 423-3278. He recently served as associate pastor at Temple Church in Louisiana for the four years.

Larry Cox, assistant to the president of Mississippi College, took **Rusty Bryant, Jason Cox, Jeremy Cox, Brian Hudson, and Steven Antrim,** students at MC, on a mission trip to Burkina Faso. They led a resident camp for MKs during mission meeting, and in worship services in several villages.

Charles S. Kelley Jr. has been named interim director of New Orleans Seminary's center for evangelism and church growth. He will continue as associate professor of evangelism and director of field education.

Billie Buckley has published a gift booklet, "Put Some Good On My Life". This booklet is a collection of her best-loved columns for her five years as religion page columnist for the Hattiesburg American newspaper. She is the wife of Gerald Buckley, pastor of Petal-Harvey Church, Petal. For more information, call 582-4818.

New Orleans Seminary has made three major administrative changes. **Jimmy W. Dukes** has become assistant provost and **Don H. Stewart** has become full-time director of the doctor of ministry degree program. **Paul E. Gregoire Jr.** will assume the responsibilities of registrar and director of admissions Jan. 1, 1993. As of this date, enrollment at the seminary is up 18% from the previous year; the report is still incomplete due to the Hurricane Andrew interruption.

Calhoun appalled, passes resolution

The Calhoun Association, in its recent meeting, passed the following resolution in opposition to corruption in government:

"Whereas the messengers of the 50 Southern Baptist churches in Calhoun County Association recognizing that members of our legislature appear to be willing to use any means to extend the opportunity of gambling throughout the state of Mississippi by legalizing video bingo by attaching it to another bill,

"Be it resolved that the Calhoun County Baptist Association go on record as being appalled at the back-door enactment of this legislation.

"Be it further resolved that the Calhoun County Baptist Association go on record as being opposed to the continual legalization of various vices by the legislature in our state including abortion on demand, legalization of further gambling, and increasing the accessibility of beverage alcohol and other presently illegal drugs.

"Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the **Baptist Record** and the **Clarion-Ledger**...."

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Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention

Life and Work

Accept the Good News



By Milton Burd
2 Timothy 1: 3-12

The lessons from 1 Timothy in October focused on Commitment For Breakthrough. We learned that commitment comes through developing some qualities in our lives that demonstrate faithfulness, character, lifestyle, and values in serving Christ. Now that we have taken the first step of commitment, we move to a study of 2 Timothy which will help us to Prepare For Breakthrough. This is the theme for Unit 2 (November 1-22).

When Paul wrote this second letter to Timothy, his situation had changed quite dramatically. He was a prisoner in Rome facing death. All of his associates were gone, and only Luke remained by his side. But Paul's concern was for Timothy and the success of the Gospel. Paul encouraged Timothy to remain faithful and to prepare him to continue the work of the Gospel. Let's look at 2 Timothy 1:3-12.

Paul's recognition of Timothy's faith (vv. 3-5). What a comfort it must have been for Timothy to know that Paul was praying for him. Paul prayed for Timothy night and day. Timothy was constantly in the prayers of Paul. Paul knew that his life would soon end, and Timothy was his great hope to continue the work of the Gospel. Paul knew of Timothy's sincere faith. Timothy had served faithfully at Ephesus. It was a difficult ministry for him. He had dealt effectively with false teachers and pagan influences while pastoring the church. Paul continually encouraged him in his first letter to be strong and faithful. Paul had become convinced that Timothy was the one to take his place after his death. Paul evidently began this process when he sent Tychicus to replace Timothy at Ephesus so that Timothy could join him at Rome (2 Timothy 4: 9,12). Paul wanted his son in the faith to give spiritual leadership to all the churches. He knew that his faith was equal to the task.

A challenge to Timothy (vv. 6-8). Paul reminded Timothy of the spiritual gifts he had received. These were confirmed when God called him into service and Paul ordained him by the laying on of hands. God gave to Timothy the gifts he needed for his ministry. Now, Paul was encouraging Timothy to fan into flame or stir up these gifts. Use them to their very limits. Keep them sharp through prayer, worship, and service.

It is the Holy Spirit who enables us to serve God, and through him we can overcome fear and weakness. Paul encouraged Timothy to overcome his feelings of timidity and cowardice by depending on the power of the Holy Spirit. We cannot serve God by our power alone. Nothing can take the place of the power of the Holy Spirit. So Paul reminded Timothy to not be ashamed to testify about Christ or to identify with him, a prisoner of the Gospel, and to always depend on the Holy Spirit to supply the power.

A summary of the gospel message (vv. 9-11). Paul reflected on God's grace for Timothy's benefit. Salvation comes not as a result of human effort or goodness, but by God's grace revealed in Jesus Christ. This is the heart of the Gospel message. This salvation by grace calls us to holy living. Jesus Christ conquered death and revealed the way of eternal life. Not only has he conquered death, but He brought life and immortality to light. Timothy could rely on this message to share powerfully with others. Certainly we can too. The Holy Spirit has empowered us to continue to share this great news of grace. Salvation is for all. We can share this message without fear or timidity. Paul said that his commission was to be a herald, apostle, and teacher (v. 11). Breakthrough calls for us to be the same.

Paul's confidence in God (v. 12). Believers may live with confidence and security knowing that God is capable of fulfilling his purpose, which includes sustaining those who are his people. Paul had confidence in God's power to save and keep him. He had entrusted his life to the Lord. He had no regrets or concerns. God will honor and keep all that we entrust to him. God will see his purpose through to completion. May we entrust our total being to him!

Burd is minister of education, First Church, Cleveland.

Uniform

Ahab & Elijah: "Who is Lord?"



By Margaret H. Rogers
1 Kings 17:1-7; 18:1-46

The prophet Elijah stands out in the Old Testament as the typical representative of the prophets who were God's mouthpieces. Some prophets were advisors to kings. They came at that moment in history when the kingdom of Israel came into existence, and they continued only as long as that kingdom was in existence. The "oral prophets," such as Elijah, carried on their prophetic ministry during the tenth and ninth centuries B.C. Elijah appeared on the scene as a fully grown man, an uncompromising prophet of Jehovah, one of the most powerful and colorful characters in the Old Testament. Little is known of his early life except that he is called the Tisbite and that he came from Gilead across the Jordan.

Elijah is mentioned early in chapter 17 of 1 Kings. Without any warning or any previous introduction, Elijah appeared to Ahab, king of the Northern Kingdom, saying that there would be a drought for three years. This was during the time that Baal was worshiped in the land. King Ahab had married Jezebel, the daughter of a Sidonian king. In those days, when one brought home a wife who served a foreign god, arrangements were made for the worship of her god. Solomon had followed this practice and it had resulted in the downfall of his kingdom. Ahab did the same; he erected an altar to Baal in the house which he built in Samaria. Ahab did more to provoke the Lord, the God of Israel, to anger than all the kings of Israel who came before him.

Elijah's meeting with Ahab (1 Kings 18:17-18). The Baal worship that Ahab and Jezebel promoted was a fertility faith. The worship of Baal was thought to guarantee rain and crops. Elijah challenged Baal in the name of the Lord at the very point where Baal's strength was supposed to lie! The severe three-year drought did not convince Israel of Baal's impotence. Rather than seeing himself responsible, Ahab blamed Elijah. Ahab had searched for Elijah but he had been unable to find him. Now Elijah was commanded by God to engineer a direct confrontation. It must have taken courage to go meet this wicked king who was a sworn enemy of Jehovah and who was certainly capable of killing the prophet, but Ahab and Elijah met.

Elijah's challenge to Baal worshippers (vv. 20-24). Ahab supported, at public expense, 450 prophets of Baal and 400 prophets of the goddess, Asherah. They ate at the king's table while many people in the land were hungry. Elijah challenged these prophets to a contest between Jehovah and Baal. The altar and sacrifice were prepared. The prophets of Baal kept calling and calling for their god to fire up the altar but there was no response.

God's response and the people's response (vv. 36-39). Elijah prepared his altar and sacrifice. He poured four barrels of water over the carcass and the wood. Then Elijah prayed and called on the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel to prove his power. The fire came down and consumed the wood sacrifice and evaporated all the water. The people began to shout, "Jehovah is God; Jehovah is God." Elijah then killed all the prophets of Baal. He had experienced a great triumph through his faith and the power of God.

Elijah's work was done under most discouraging circumstances, but he accomplished much good in the way of arresting, though not averting, the destruction of the Northern Kingdom. Living in the midst of corruption, being constantly opposed and persecuted, he was, of necessity, a man of stern and rigid character but also one of strong conviction, unquestioned courage, and great faith. His task was difficult and required tact, faith, and courage. Elijah faced the forces of evil and he challenged the entrenched idolatry of his time. Life in Israel was hard enough with all that Elijah did to save it. His significant achievement was that of effectively checking Baal worship and keeping alive the religion of Jehovah at a time when it was perilously near to extinction. One day, 900 years later, Elijah stood with Moses and Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration. The people had stoned the prophets, worshiped idols, and were preparing to crucify Jesus; however, God had not given up on them yet. Elijah had an opportunity to see that God was still working for the redemption of his people. That thought should motivate Christians to be about the Father's business of loving and witnessing to all people.

Rogers is a member of Salem Church, Collins.

Bible Book

Freedom through Christ



By R. David Raddin
Romans 6:1-4, 23; 7:7, 14-25a

Freedom from sin comes only through Christ. The freedom that Christ offers is found as a person confesses his or her sin, asks God's forgiveness, and accepts Christ as Savior and Lord. The reason for freedom is expressed in Galatians 5:1: "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery."

Freed to new life (6:1-4). "But where sin increased, grace increased all the more..." (Romans 5:20). No matter how bad the sin, God's grace is greater. However, God's grace offered to the sinner is not a license to sin. "What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?" (6:1-2). Paul refutes those who say that sin is their means of allowing God to reveal his grace. To come to Christ is to die to sin, not live in it.

"We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life" (v. 4). Baptism is a symbol that a person has a personal, saving relationship with Christ. Lowered into the water, the symbol is being baptized into Christ's death, and death to living without him. Raised from the water, the symbol is Christ's resurrection and new life in him. The phrase, "live a new life," describes a new way of life in Christ.

Free from the penalty of sin (6:23). "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (6:23). All the good works a person can do cannot earn God's favor. Good works do not outweigh the fact that we are sinners. We fall short of God's requirements to be right with him. "For all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Without Christ, the sinner gets what he or she deserves for sin: DEATH.

Eternal life is a gift of God that can only come from God. He offers life to all who believe in him as Savior. No one is worthy to receive God's gift. In his love, Jesus came to make worthy those who come to him. No matter who you are or what you have done, God loves you. He wants you to come to him in repentance of your sin and accept him as your Lord and Savior. He wants to free you from the penalty of sin and give you eternal life.

Free to learn from the law (7:7). "What shall we say, then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! Indeed I would not have known what sin was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, 'Do not covet.'" Paul was saying that through the law he had come to a knowledge of sin. Sin, not the law, was the problem. If one thinks that keeping the law will bring salvation, that person is deceived. Trying to be justified by keeping the law seems good, but it is impossible and leads to death.

Facing the conflict with sin (7:14-23). "So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members" (vv. 21-23). Paul described himself as "sold under sin" (v. 14). "Sold under sin" is a term which means bought and delivered to sin, as a slave to a master. One of the great questions of New Testament study regards whether verses 14-23 refer to Paul's life before, or after, conversion.

The struggle with sin is a real part of the life of a Christian. Each one of us sins. The Lord promises that "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I John 1:9). Thanks be to God that though the struggle with sin is real, so is God's victory and our hope is in him.

The way to freedom (7:24-25a). "What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God — through Jesus Christ our Lord" (vv. 24-25a). The way to freedom from sin and death is through Christ. You can be free in him. Freedom to have eternal and abundant life is a gift from God that no one can earn (Eph. 2:8-9).

Will you accept Christ as your personal Savior and Lord? Will you find freedom in him? "So if the Son sets you free, you will be FREE INDEED!" (John 8:36).

Raddin is pastor, First Church, Yazoo City.

Difficult times befall pastors and their families when churches overlook retirement planning

By Kirby F. Warnock

Tucked back in the piney woods of Mississippi near Wiggins is the home of 98-year old Otie B. Lee, widow of Baptist preacher Needham Lee. With a retirement check of $41 a month, she was unable to make ends meet and moved in with her son and daughter-in-law two years ago.

Blind and nearly deaf, Otie was helped into the living room by her son, who placed a hearing aid on her ears and cranked up the reception to the point you could hear the feedback.

Speaking in slow, measured speech, she told us that her husband worked in Mississippi Baptist churches for 69 years. During that time, not one church contributed to his retirement plan. He was able to make some contributions on his own, building a small retirement fund. Once he was gone, she was left with a small survivor's benefit. She receives no Social Security.

Mrs. Lee was recently chosen to receive an additional $50 a month as part of the Annuity Board's "Adopt an Annuitant" program. To the average person, $50 a month may not seem like much, but for Mrs. Lee it doubled her income.

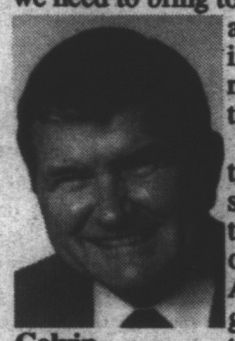
"You wouldn't believe how much that $50 a month has helped," said her daughter-in-law. "It allows us to buy so much of the medicine that she needs."

Thomas H. Maxwell of Pike County served 44 churches in 36 years of full-time service and 20 years as an interim pastor. Only one church contributed to his retirement plan. Today he receives a monthly retirement check of $24, plus $50 under the Adopt an Annuitant program. He and his wife, Elizabeth, recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary and are grateful for the additional $50, which has allowed them to get medical attention they had put off.

There are thousands of retired Baptist workers like Otie B. Lee and the Maxwells. The Annuity Board estimates that 386 retired ministers in Mississippi are attempting to live on retirement income of less than $200 a month. Another 176 of them receive less than $100 a month.

How has such an indignity been allowed to fall upon such loyal Baptist church workers?

"I think it was something that fell through the cracks," said Jack Colvin, an Annuity Board trustee and member of Colonial Heights Church, Jackson. "I certainly don't think it was intentional. I think we get caught up in our own needs and don't take care of the needs of those people who at one time served us. This is a message that we need to bring to our convention and to everyone in our denomination and have them respond."



Colvin

The message that Colvin speaks about is the eight-year-old Adopt an Annuitant program administered by the Annuity Board, which is attempting to raise more than $2.25 million for the program during its "A Time to Remember" campaign. Money contributed to this fund will help retired Baptist ministers and their families who are in need.

Colvin has become Mississippi's standard bearer for the campaign. He is an insurance broker by day, but most of his spare time is spent on a personal crusade to educate fellow Mississippi Baptists about the plight of their retired ministers.

It is not an easy task. Many Baptists find it difficult to believe that their former pastor could be living near poverty, and Southern Baptist Convention rules do not allow him to solicit donations from churches. He must be invited to speak and has managed to receive invitations from several Sunday Schools, but he wants to do more.

"When I saw the video put out by the Annuity Board, 'Helping Our Family,' it moved me to tears," he recalled. "I still can't watch it with a dry eye. The Lord just laid a heavy burden on my heart to do something to help these people. Scripturally, we are really falling down. These people have worked hard and diligently for the Lord, and they deserve our interest, attention, and compassion."

Colvin feels that today's churches must also address the problem.

"We need to do something about our current preachers," Colvin said. "If churches hear the story and see the video, the church will start contributing on its own so their pastor does not find himself in this dilemma. We've got to take care of those in need now, but we need to prepare for those who will be going into retirement so they won't wind up the same way."

The Annuity Board takes no administrative fees from donations to the Adopt an Annuitant program. Every cent goes to one of our own who desperately needs it. A donation of $600 will provide monthly benefits for one year to a deserving individual, and $7,500 will provide a $50 monthly benefit forever.

Contact the Annuity Board at 1-800-262-0511 to request a free copy of the videotape, "Helping Our Family." The Annuity Board will also provide information and other services at no charge.

Mississippi Baptists who want to schedule a presentation should contact Colvin through the Church-Minister Relations & Annuity Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. The telephone number is (601) 968-3800.

Warnock is promotions editor, SBC Annuity Board, Dallas, Texas..



Otie B. Lee

Fields: Religious Right must stop claiming the "franchise on God"

By Ken Camp

DALLAS (BP) — Some conservative pastors have "perverted" the gospel and the Christian mission by turning their churches into political action groups, according to spokespersons for Southern Baptist Denominational Relations Information, Inc.

"Stop claiming the franchise on God," said Randall H. Fields, a San Antonio attorney and a leader of the Nashville-based, laity-led "denominational relations" group.

Offering a message to secular politicians wanting to co-opt the church, Fields added, "We're pro-church, we're pro-First Amendment, and we vote."

Ties between the conservative wing of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Religious Right was one of many subjects addressed by about a dozen speakers at an Oct. 8 press conference in Dallas sponsored by the "denominational relations" group.

Speakers at the wide-ranging news conference also touched on the role of Woman's Missionary Union, the threat of "New Age Fundamentalists" and a perceived attempt by conservatives to take over the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

The vast resources of the Foreign Mission Board may soon be used to export controversy and "promote fundamentalist dogma throughout the world," said John Baugh, a retired corporate executive from Houston who spearheaded the press conference.

Baugh pointed to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Woman's Missionary Union as potential vehicles allowing moderate Baptists to do missions.

"Woman's Missionary Union is the best of all Baptist agencies to send missionaries throughout the world," said Baugh. Traditionally, WMU has not been a missionary-sending body but has focused on missions support and missions education.

Alluding to recent efforts to have WMU rescind its auxiliary status and surrender to SBC control, Baugh said, "It's time for the New Age Fundamentalists to stop bullying the WMU."

Texas Baptist laypersons must not allow the Baptist General Convention of Texas to be captured by these "New Age Fundamentalist" pastors — men who position themselves between the laity and God, said Baugh.

Support for cooperative missions professed by conservatives in Texas masks their scheme to seize control of the state convention, according to Gracie Hatfield Hilton of Arlington, Texas.

"The Cooperative Program is a smoke screen being used to mask a takeover plot," she said, pointing specifically to implied criticism of BGCT leadership in a mailing sent to all Texas Baptist pastors in August.

The "Common Statement of Convention Support," signed by about 150 Southern Baptist pastors in Texas, called on Texas convention leadership "to maintain the historical and traditional process of funding in the BGCT Cooperative Program budget."

The announced plan by the Texas Baptist Conservative Fellowship to deny incumbent BGCT President Richard Maples a traditional second term is unprecedented in Texas Baptist life, Hilton said. The fellowship and the framers of the "Common Statement" have thrown their support behind Rudy Hernandez, a San Antonio evangelist.

First Church, Bryan, Texas, where Maples is pastor, gave 10% of its undesignated gifts through the Cooperative Program last year, Hilton said. On the other hand, Village Parkway Church, San Antonio, where Hernandez is a member, gave nothing through the Cooperative Program last year and less than 1% of its undesignated receipts the previous year, she said.

Camp is public information director, Baptist General Convention of Texas.



MC welcomes new staff

Three new faculty members have been added to the Department of Religion and Philosophy at Mississippi College for the current school year. They, along with their wives, were honored at a new faculty/staff reception held recently at the president's home. From left, they are Loyd Allen, associate professor and head of the Department of Religion; Libby Allen; Michael Johnson, associate professor of religion; Terri Johnson; John Meadors, instructor in philosophy and Bible; and Susan Meadors.

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